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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor application of

: Confirmation No. 3478

Hiroshi HAMASAKA et al.

: Docket No. 2002_0034A

Serial No. 10/046,512

: Group Art Unit 2615

Filed January 16, 2002

INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS
AND METHOD FOR THE SAME

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,


- c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstracts,
- e. ☒ the concise explanation for reference **AM** is set forth below:

U.S. Patent No. 6,181,870 corresponds to JP 2000-152183.

5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroshi HAMASAKA et al.

By 

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June 20, 2003

Sheet 1 of 1							
FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: June 20, 2003				ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 2002_0034A		SERIAL NO. 10/046,512	
APPLICANT Hiroshi HAMASAKA et al.				FILING DATE January 16, 2002		GROUP 2615	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA		6,181,870	1/2001	Okada et al.			
AB							
AC							
AD							
AE							
AF							
AG							
AH							
AI							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
AJ		2000-324444	11/2000	JP			Abstract
AK		2000-261741	9/2000	JP			Abstract
AL		9-312827	12/1997	JP			Abstract
AM		2000-152183	5/2000	JP			Abstract
AN							
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
AO							
AP							
AQ							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.